operating state.

46. (Not Currently Amended) The communication method according to Claim 42, further comprising steps of inputting data and instructing transmission of the data inputted by an input unit, wherein the first controller shifts the second communication unit and the second controller from the standby state to the operating state in accordance with an instruction by an instruction unit.

REMARKS

This application has been reviewed in light of the Office Action dated November 18, 2002. Claims 1-46 remain pending in this application. Claims 1, 10, 15, 18, 19, 24, 34, 39, 41, and 42 are in independent form and have been amended to define still more clearly what Applicant regards as his invention. Favorable reconsideration is requested.

The Office Action rejected Claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 9, 15, 17-20, 22-26, 28, 29, 31-33, 39, 41-43, 45 and 46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 5,392,023 (D'Avello). The Office Action rejected Claims 4, 7, 10-14, 16, 21, 27, 30, 34-38, 40 and 44 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over D'Avello, in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,608,546 (Nakamura et al.).

Applicant submits that independent Claims 1, 10, 15, 18, 19, 24, 34, 39, 41, and 42, together with the claims dependent thereon, are patentably distinct from the cited prior art for at least the following reasons.

Claim 1 is directed to a communication apparatus in which first and second communication units are connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time via respective different lines, and that in case the first and second communication units are on standby, when an actuation factor for the second communication unit is detected, the second communication unit shifts to an operating state, but the first communication unit is retained as it is on standby.

On the other hand, D'Avello, as understood by Applicant, shows a data communication system in which, upon reception of a call from a base station, radiotelephone 101 (first communication unit) goes into an active mode, and at the same time controller 103 turns on the accessory 109 (send communication unit). That is, upon reception of the call, the whole system shifts to the active mode.

As compared to D'Avello, the invention defined by Claim 1 is clearly distinguishable in at least the following points:

1) In the invention defined by Claim 1, each of the communication units can shift to a standby mode, and in case one of the communication units is active (busy) and the other communication unit is on standby, the other communication unit shifts to the active mode upon detection of an actuation factor, so that both communication units may connect with respective different remote partners.

2) In case both communication units are on standby, when the actuation factor for one of the communication unit is detected, the corresponding communication unit shifts to the active mode, but the other communication unit is retained as it is on standby.

That is, when both communication units are on standby and the actuation factor for one communication unit is detected, the whole system does not shift to the active mode, but only the communication unit for which the actuation factor is detected shifts to the active mode. Therefore, the present invention can considerably reduce power dissipation. For at least the reasons mentioned above, Claim 1 is believed clearly patentable over D'Avello.

Independent Claim 15 is directed to a communication apparatus including first and second communication units that are connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time via respective different lines. In case the first communication unit is active (busy) and the second communication unit is on standby, when the transmission of inputted data (e.g. data read by a scanner) is instructed to the second communication unit, the second communication shifts to an active mode to transmit the data, while in case the first and second communication units are on standby, when the transmission of inputted data is instructed to the first communication unit, the first communication unit shifts to the active mode to transmit the data, but the second communication unit is retained as it is on standby.

As compared to D'Avello, the invention defined by Claim 15 is clearly distinguishable at least in the following points:

1) In the Claim 15, each of the communication units can shift to a standby mode, and in case one of the communication units is active (busy) and the other communication unit is on standby, when the transmission of inputted data is instructed, the other communication unit shifts to the active mode to transmit the data.

2) In case both communication units are on standby, when the

transmission of the data is instructed, the corresponding communication unit shifts to the active mode to transmit the data, but the other communication unit is retained as it is on standby. That is, when both communication units are on standby and the transmission of the inputted data is instructed, the whole system does not shift to the active mode, but only the communication unit responsive to the instruction shifts to the active mode. Therefore, the present invention can considerably reduce power dissipation during communication.

Claim 18 is directed to a communication apparatus including first and second communication units that are connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time via respective different lines, and in case the first and second communication units are on standby, when an actuation factor for the first communication unit is detected, the first communication unit shifts to an active mode to receive data and output the received data to an output means and the second communication unit is retained as it is on standby, while when an actuation factor for the second communication unit is detected, the second communication unit shifts to the active mode to receive data and the first communication unit also shifts to the active mode to output data received by the first communication unit.

In D'Avello, if accessory 109 corresponds to the second communication unit and the output means of the present invention, radiotelephone 101 and modem 102 should correspond to the first communication unit of the present invention. When an actuation factor for the accessory 109 (i.e. the second communication unit) is detected, the radio-telephone 101 and the modem 102 (i.e. the first communication unit) as well as the accessory 109 (i.e. the second communication unit) shift to the active mode. However, when an

actuation factor for the radiotelephone 101 and the modem 102 (i.e. the first communication unit) is detected, D'Avello discloses nothing to indicate what operation these devices (the radiotelephone 101, the modem 102, and the accessory 109) execute or whether these devices are active or on standby.

In D'Avello, if a remote facsimile machine or a telephone machine connected to the radiotelephone 101 and the modem 102 (that is, the first communication unit) corresponds to the output means of the present invention, these devices shift into the active mode even when the accessory 109 sends a command to communicate with the facsimile machine. That is, in this case, the whole system shifts to an active mode.

Further, D'Avello does not teach what operation these devices execute when the radiotelephone 101 and the modem 102 (that is, the first communication unit) communicate with the remote facsimile machine, or whether they are active or on standby.

As compared to D'Avello, Claim 18 is clearly distinguishable in at least the following points:

1) In Claim 18, each of the communication units can shift to a standby mode, and in case the first communication unit is active and the second communication unit is on standby, the second communication unit shifts to the active mode upon detection of an actuation factor for the second communication unit so that both communication units may connect with respective different remote partners.

2) In case both communication units are on standby, when the actuation factor for the first communication unit is detected, the first communication is detected,

the first communication unit shifts to the active mode, but the second communication unit is retained as it is on standby. That is, when both communication units are on standby and the actuation factor for the first communication unit is detected, the whole system does not shift to the active mode, but only the first communication unit for which the actuation factor is detected shifts to the active mode. Therefore, the present invention can considerably reduce power dissipation during the transmission.

Claim 19 is directed to a communication apparatus including first and second communication units that are connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time via respective different lines and first and second controller are provided for controlling the first and second communication units respectively, and that in case the first and second communication units and the first and second controllers are on standby, when an actuation factor for the second communication unit is detected, the second communication unit and the second controller shift to all active node, but the first communication unit and the first controller are retained as they are on standby.

As compared to the D'Avello, Claim 19 is clearly distinguishable at least in the following points:

1) In Claim 19, each of the communication units and each of the controllers can shift to a standby mode, and in case one of the communication units and its relevant controller are active and the other communication unit and its relevant controller are on standby, the other communication unit and its relevant controller shift to an active mode upon detection of an actuation factor so that both communication units may connect with respective

different remote partners.

2) In case both communication units are on standby, when the actuation factor for one of the communication units is detected, the corresponding communication unit and controller shift to the active mode, but the other communication unit and controller are retained as they are on standby. That is, when all the communication units and the controllers are on standby and the actuation factor for one communication unit is detected, the whole system does not shift to the active mode, but only the communication unit for which the actuation factor is detected and its relevant controller shift to the active mode. Therefore, the present invention can considerably reduce power dissipation.

Claim 10 is directed to a communication apparatus including first and second communication units that are connectable with respective different remote partner at the same time via respective different lines, and that in case the first and second communication units are on standby, when an actuation factor for the first communication unit is detected, the first communication unit shifts to an active mode to receive data and output the received data to an output unit, but the second communication unit is retained as it is on standby, while when an actuation factor further second communication unit is detected, the second communication unit shifts to the active mode to store the received data and the first communication also shifts to the active mode to output the stored data to the output unit.

As compared to D'Avello, Claim 10 is clearly distinguishable at least in the following points:

1) In Claim 10, each of first and second communication units can

shift to a standby mode, and in case one of the communication units is active and the other communication unit is on standby, the other communication unit shifts to an active mode upon detection of an actuation factor so that both communication units may connect with respective different remote partners.

2) In case the first and second communications units are on standby, when the actuation factor for the first communication units is detected, the first communication unit shifts to the active mode, but the other communication unit is retained as it is on standby. That is, when the first and second communication units are on standby and the actuation factor for the first communication unit is detected, the whole system doe not shift to the active mode, but only the communication unit for which the actuation factor is detected shifts to the active mode. Therefore, the present invention can considerably reduce power dissipation during the communication.

For at least the reasons set forth above, independent Claims 1, 10, 15, 18 and 19 are believed patentable over D'Avello. Independent Claims 24, 34, 39, 41 and 42 are method claims corresponding respectively to independent apparatus Claims 1, 10, 15, 18 and 19 and are believed patentable for at least the same reasons.

The other rejected claims in this application depend from one or another of the independent claims discussed above, and, therefore, are submitted to be patentable for at least the same reasons. Since each dependent claim is also deemed to define an additional aspect of the invention, individual reconsideration of the patentability of each claim on its own merits is respectfully requested.

This Amendment After Final Action is believed clearly to place this application in condition for allowance and, therefore, its entry is believed proper under 37 C.F.R. § 1.116. Accordingly, entry of this Amendment After Final Action, as an earnest effort to advance prosecution and reduce the number of issues, is respectfully requested.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests favorable reconsideration and early passage to issue of the present application.

No petition to extend the time for response to the Office Action is deemed necessary for the present Amendment. If, however, such a petition is required to make this Amendment timely filed, then this paper should be considered such a petition and the Commissioner is authorized to charge the requisite petition fee to Deposit Account 06-1205.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York Office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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MARKED-UP VERSION SHOWING THE CHANGES MADE TO THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1, 10, 15, 18, 19, 24, 34, 39, 41 and 42 as follows. A marked-up copy of the amended claims, showing the changes made thereto, is attached.

1. (Twice Amended) A communication apparatus capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising:

a first communication unit connectable with a first communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said first communication line;

a second communication unit connectable with a second communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said second communication line; and

a detection unit for detecting [actuating] actuation factors for said first and second communication units; and

a controller for shifting said second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state in response to detection of the actuation factor for said second communication unit by said detection unit, retaining said first communication unit as it is on standby, when said first and second communication units are on standby.

10. (Twice Amended) A communication apparatus capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising:

a first communication unit connectable with a first communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said first communication line;

a second communication unit connectable with a second communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said second communication line;

a storage unit for storing data received by said second communication unit;

a detection unit for detecting actuation factors for said first and second communication units; and

an output unit for outputting data received by said first and second communication units,

wherein when said first and second communication units are on standby, said first communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data in response to detection of the actuation factor for said first communication unit by said detection unit, retaining said second communication unit as it is on standby, and outputs the

received data to said output means, and on the other hand, when said first and second communication units are on standby, said second communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data in response to detection of the actuation factor for said second communication unit, stores the received data in said storage unit and enables said first communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operating state, and said first communication unit outputs the data stored in said storage unit to said output unit.

15. (Twice Amended) A communication apparatus capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising:

a first communication unit connectable with a first communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said first communication line;

a second communication unit connectable with a second communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said second communication line;

an input unit for inputting data;

an instruction unit for instructing the transmission of the input data inputted by said input unit; and

a controller for shifting said second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state in response to the instruction of said instruction unit during the communication by said first communication unit, and transmitting data, and for shifting said first communication unit from the standby state to the operating state in response to the instruction of said instruction unit, without shifting said second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state, when said first and second communication units are on standby, and transmitting data.

18. (Amended) A communication apparatus capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising:

a first communication unit connectable with a first communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said first communication line;

a second communication unit connectable with a second communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said second communication line;

a detection unit for detecting actuation factors for said first and second communication units; and

an output unit for outputting data received by said first and second

communication units,

wherein when said first and second communication units are on standby, said first communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data, in response to detection of the actuation factor for said first communication unit by said detection unit, without shifting said second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state, and outputs the received data to said output means, and on the other hand, when said first and second communication units are on standby, said second communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data, in response to detection of the actuation factor for said second communication unit, and enables said first communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operating state, and said first communication unit outputs the data to said output unit.

19. (Amended) A communication apparatus capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising:

a first communication unit connectable with a first communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of communication with a remote partner via said first communication line;

a second communication unit connectable with a second communication line, capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and capable of

communication with a remote partner via said second communication line;

a first controller for controlling said first communication unit, said first controller capable of reducing power dissipation on standby; and

a second controller for controlling said second communication unit, said second controller capable reducing power dissipation on standby,

wherein said first controller includes a detection unit for detecting actuation factors for the first and second communication units, and said second communication unit and said second controller shift from the standby state to the operating state in response to detection of the actuation factor for said second communication unit by said detection unit, retaining said first communication unit and said first controller as they are on standby, when said first and second communication units and said first and second controllers are on standby.

24. (Amended) A communication method capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first communication unit with a first communication line, the first communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the first communication line;

connecting a second communication unit with a second communication line, the second communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and

being capable of communication with a remote partner via the second communication line; and

detecting [actuating] actuation factors for the first and second communication units; and

shifting the second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state in response to detection of the actuation factor for the second communication unit by said detection step, retaining the first communication unit as it is on standby, when the first and second communication units are on standby.

34. (Amended) A communication method capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first communication unit with a first communication line, the first communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the first communication line;

connecting a second communication unit with a second communication line, the second communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the second communication line;

storing data received by the second communication unit;

detecting actuation factors for the first and second communication units; and

outputting data received by the first and second communication units,

wherein when the first and second communication units are on standby, the first communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data in response to detection of the actuation factor for the first communication unit by the detection step, retaining the second communication unit as it is on standby, and outputs the received data to said output step, and on the other hand, when the first and second communication units are on standby, the second communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data in response to detection of the actuation factor for the second communication unit, stores the received data in a storage unit and enables the first communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operating state, and the first communication unit outputs the data stored in the storage unit to the output unit.

39. (Amended) A communication method capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first communication unit with a first communication line, the first communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the first communication line;

connecting a second communication unit with a second communication line, the second communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and

being capable of communication with a remote partner via the second communication line;

inputting data;

instructing the transmission of the input data; and

shifting the second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state in response to the instruction of an instruction unit during the communication by the first communication unit, and transmitting data and for shifting said first communication unit from the standby state to the operating state in response to the instruction of said instructing step, without shifting the second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state, when the first and second communication units are on standby, and transmitting data.

41. (Amended) A communication method capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first communication unit with a first communication line, the first communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the first communication line;

connecting a second communication unit with a second communication line, the second communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the second communication line;

detecting actuation factors for the first and second communication units; and

outputting data received by the first and second communication units,

wherein when the first and second communication units are on standby, the first communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data, in response to detection of the actuation factor for the first communication unit by [a detection unit] said detecting step, without shifting the second communication unit from the standby state to the operating state, and outputs the received data, and on the other hand, when the first and second communication units are on standby, the second communication unit shifts from the standby state to the operating state to receive data in response to detection of the actuation factor for the second communication unit, and enables the first communication unit to shift from the standby state to the operating state, and the first communication unit outputs the data to the output unit.

42. (Amended) A communication method capable of accommodating a plurality of lines connectable with respective different remote partners at the same time, comprising the steps of:

connecting a first communication unit with a first communication line, the first communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the first communication line;

connecting a second communication unit with a second communication

line, the second communication unit being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby, and being capable of communication with a remote partner via the second communication line;

controlling by a first controller the first communication unit, the first controller being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby; and

controlling by a second controller the second communication unit, the second controller being capable of reducing power dissipation on standby,

wherein the first controller includes a detection unit for detecting actuation factors for the first and second communication units, and the second communication unit and the second controller shift from the standby state to the operating state in response to detection of the actuation factor for the second communication unit by the detection unit, retaining the first communication unit and the first controller as they are on standby, when the first and second communication units and the first and second controllers are on standby.

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